

a portion of the stabilizer.

5. ⁹⁴ (New) The device of claim 95, in which the stabilizer includes a disk, sized and shaped to fit within the base and to be received and supported by the lip, the disk covering at least a portion of the access lumen.

6. ⁹⁵ (New) The device of claim 96, in which the movable member includes a hinged member.

7. ⁹⁶ (New) The device of claim 97, in which the hinged member includes a cam that is hingedly coupled to the disk.

8. ⁹⁷ (New) The device of claim 98, in which the base comprises an exit groove extending outward from the access lumen, the exit groove sized and shaped to receive at least a portion of the instrument therein to permit the instrument to exit the base.

9. ⁹⁸ (New) The device of claim 99, in which the base comprises at least one receptacle sized and shaped to receive a mating portion of a cap sized and shaped to substantially cover the access lumen.

10. ⁹⁹ (New) The device of claim 100, in which the stabilizer includes a disk, sized and shaped to cover at least a portion of the burr hole, and wherein the movable member includes:

a hinge, coupling the movable member to the disk; and
a catch, engaging the disk to secure the movable member in a closed position to substantially immobilize the instrument.

11. ¹⁰⁰ (New) The device of claim 101, in which the movable member includes an engagement sized and shaped to receive a tool for moving the movable member to the closed position.

12. ¹⁰¹ (New) The device of claim 90, further including a cap sized and shaped to engage the

base and substantially cover the burr hole.

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104. (New) A device for immobilizing a primary instrument, comprising:
a ring-shaped base, defining an access lumen therethrough; and
a stabilizer, sized and shaped to be supported within the access lumen, the stabilizer
including:
a disk, including a radial slot; and
a movable member, hingedly coupled to the disk to adjustably overlay a portion of
the radial slot to clamp the instrument within the radial slot.

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105. (New) The device of claim 104, in which the movable member includes a catch that
engages the disk to restrict movement between the movable member and the disk to clamp the
instrument.

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106. (New) The device of claim 104, in which the disk is 360-degree rotatable within the access
lumen to orient the radial slot such that the instrument is capable of being clamped within the
radial slot at any desired location within the access lumen.

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107. (New) The device of claim 104, in which the base includes an exit groove extending
radially outward from the access lumen, the exit groove sized and shaped to receive a portion of
the instrument.

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108. (New) A device comprising:

a ring-shaped base, sized and shaped to be secured about a burr hole in a skull, the base
defining an access lumen therethrough that is concentric to the burr hole, the base including a lip
circumferentially surrounding the access lumen, the base further including an exit groove
extending outward from the access lumen, the exit groove sized and shaped to receive the
electrode therethrough; and

an electrode stabilizer, sized and shaped to be supported on the lip and carried within the

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access lumen, the stabilizer including:

a rotatable disk, including a radial slot; and
a movable member, hingedly coupled to the disk to adjustably overlay a portion of the radial slot, the movable member including a catch fixing a position of the movable member with respect to the disk to clamp the electrode within the radial slot.

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109. (New) A device comprising:

a ring-shaped base, sized and shaped to be secured about a burr hole in a skull, the base defining an access lumen therethrough that is concentric to the burr hole;
means, supported by the base and carried within the access lumen, for securing an instrument extending through the access lumen and the burr hole; and
a cap, couplable to the base, the cap sized and shaped to cover the access lumen.

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110. (New) The device of claim 109, in which one of the base and the cap includes at least one receptacle and the other of the base and the cap includes at least one snap-fit leg mating to the at least one receptacle.

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111. (New) The device of claim 110, in which the cap includes at least one exit groove that is configured to align with at least one other exit groove in the base.

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112. (New) A device comprising:

a ring-shaped base, defining an access lumen therethrough, the base including a lip circumferentially surrounding the access lumen;

an stabilizer, sized and shaped to be supported on the lip and carried within the access lumen, the stabilizer including:

a disk, including a radial slot; and
a movable member, hingedly coupled to the disk to adjustably overlay a portion of the radial slot, the movable member including a catch fixing a position of the movable member with respect to the disk.

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113. (New) A device for immobilizing a primary instrument, the device comprising:
a base, sized and shaped to be secured about a burr hole opening in a skull, the burr hole opening in the skull defining at an external surface of the skull a burr hole plane, the base including a lateral stabilizer oriented to grasp and immobilize a portion of the instrument passing substantially parallel to the burr hole plane; and

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coupled to the base, a vertical stabilizer to engage the instrument inserted through the burr hole, the vertical stabilizer oriented to grasp and immobilize a portion of the instrument passing substantially perpendicularly to the burr hole plane.

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114 (New) The device of claim 113, in which the lateral stabilizer includes a groove formed in the base.

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113 (New) The device of claim 114, in which the vertical stabilizer includes a movable clamp, the movable clamp capable of motion, in a plane that is substantially parallel to the burr hole plane, providing an adjustably-sized opening that, in an open position, permits the portion of the instrument passing substantially perpendicularly to the burr hole plane to pass freely through the adjustably-sized opening, and, in a closed position, grasps and immobilizes the portion of the instrument passing substantially perpendicularly to the burr hole plane.

REMARKS

Applicant has reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on June 19, 2002, and the references cited therewith. Claim 90 is amended, claims 1-89 and 91-93 are canceled, and claims 94-115 are added; as a result, claims 90 and 94-115 are now pending in this application.

Affirmation of Election

Applicant affirms the June 4, 2002 provisional election by Applicant's representative, Suneel Arora, of Group V (claims 90-92) for prosecution. Nonelected claims 1-89 are hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to later file continuations or divisions having claims directed to the non-elected groups.

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